

<b>POLICY OF</b>	<b>POLICY NUMBER</b>	<b>PAGE NUMBER</b>
<b>STATE OF DELAWARE</b>	G-07	1 OF 1
<b>DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION</b>	<b>RELATED NCCHC/ACA STANDARDS:</b> P-G-07/4-4353 (ESSENTIAL)	
<b>CHAPTER: 11 HEALTH SERVICES</b>	<b>SUBJECT: CARE OF PREGNANT INMATE</b>	
<b>APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER:</b>		
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE: 11-19-07</b>		

**PURPOSE:**

Pregnant inmates receive appropriate prenatal care.

**POLICY:**

All pregnant inmates receive obstetrical care consistent with the community standards of care for routine and high-risk pregnancies. The care consists of medical exams, laboratory and diagnostic tests, activity recommendations, safety precautions, nutritional guidance, counseling, education and post partum follow up. The DOC will follow Division of Public Health recommendations and state statute as applicable.

1. Recommended medications, treatments and follow-up will be provided as directed by the site Medical Director and specialty physicians.
2. Mental health staff will be available to provide the appropriate mental health treatment services should they be warranted. Consultation with medical will occur before any psychotropic medication will be ordered due to the potentially deleterious effect of those medications on the developing fetus.
3. Pregnant patients on a methadone program will continue to receive methadone.
4. Delivery will be at the hospital designated by the provider of prenatal services.
5. After return from the delivery, the patient will be seen within seven (7) days post-partum.
6. The medical vendor assumes no financial responsibility for newborn care and treatment.
7. All on-site medical care and off-site summaries will be a part of the on-site medical file.
8. A list will be kept of all pregnancies and their outcomes.

References:

National Commission on Correctional Mental Health Care: Standards & Guidelines for Delivering Services, 2003, M-G-07

American Correctional Association: Standards for Adult Correctional Institution, 4th Edition, January, 2003, 4-4353